



January 11, 2006

TO: Transportation Authority of Marin Executive Committee

FROM: Dianne Steinhauser, Executive Director

RE: Strategy 4, Crossing Guard Program - Funding and Contract Administration
Options – Agenda Item 7

Dear Commissioners:

Executive Summary

The TAM Crossing Guard program will provide trained crossing guards for critical intersections throughout Marin County. The Public Works Directors and the Technical Advisory Committee are to evaluate and prioritize the existing and requested crossing guard locations. Based on this information, they will recommend to the Authority crossing guard locations to be funded under the Crossing Guard program.

As discussed in the Expenditure Plan, the program will use trained crossing guards under contract to a professional company that specializes in crossing guard programs. A single contract with a professional crossing guard firm is envisioned for the program. Under contract to TAM, the selected firm will provide guards at locations recommended by the TAC and MPWA, and approved by the TAM Board.

The TAM Crossing Guard program will provide trained crossing guards for Marin County's most critical intersections. The Public Works Directors (MPWA) and the TAM Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) are currently establishing evaluation criteria and evaluating and prioritizing the existing and requested crossing guard locations. The TAC meetings are public meetings and provide opportunities for public input. Based on this information, they will recommend TAM crossing guard locations to be funded under the Program. To assist in the evaluation process, school pedestrian data was collected at existing and requested crossing guard locations during October and November 2005. The TAC and MPWA recommendations for crossing guard locations to be funded by TAM will be presented in early 2006. The Program is scheduled to be implemented at the start of the 2006 – 07 school year.

It is anticipated that TAM will administer the Crossing Guard Program under a single crossing guard contract. TAM will administer the Program, providing oversight, and will be responsible for the accountability of the Program. In this role, TAM would monitor the funded crossing guard locations to ensure that they continue to meet the established criteria and evaluate crossing guard locations that may be requested in the future.

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Once a guard is in place at an approved location, the funding commitment would be for a three year minimum. If the location of the crossing guard is provisional (i.e. part of a pilot program), there would be periodic monitoring of the site. A pilot program may be established when the requested crossing guard location does not fully satisfy “qualifying” criteria established by the MPWA and the TAC in prioritizing the crossing guard locations, but other factors indicate that a crossing guard may potentially be justified.

Reassessment of the crossing guard program would be on a three to six year cycle. The reassessment process would be conducted with the MPWA and TAC determining prioritization of the crossing guard locations based on updated traffic and school pedestrian data.

For locations that are prioritized as part of the above described process that are currently staffed by volunteers, school employees or other professional (hired) guards, Measure A provides, “sales tax funds will augment the work that is already being done, making sure that these local funds are put to their best use.” The resources expended by the volunteer, school employees, or other professional guards, can be redeployed to other locations or to other uses consistent with TAM’s overall goal of providing safer access to schools.

Approved locations that are currently staffed by volunteer crossing guards can choose to be incorporated into the TAM program – using professional crossing guards at the approved locations and redeploying the volunteers to other locations or other safe access to schools tasks. If the school decides to continue with their volunteer program at approved locations, the school would not receive program funds. Of the 38 schools that responded to the crossing guard survey, two schools currently have volunteer crossing guards in place.

Schools that currently use paid staff (school employees or paid guards) can choose to be incorporated into the crossing guard program – using professional crossing guards at approved locations and redeploying paid staff to other locations or to other safe access to schools tasks. Of the 38 schools that responded to the crossing guard survey, 15 use school employees or paid guards for crossing guard services.

Other approaches for funding and contract administration for the Program include:

- TAM contracting directly with more than one firm to provide the crossing guards.
- TAM providing funding through funding agreements to one or more local agencies, such as school districts or city police or public works departments, to manage individual programs.

Recommendation:

Provide feedback on the approach outlined to implement the program.

Attachments:
Summary of Crossing Guard Data.

**Summary Data
Crossing Guard Survey**

No.	School District	School Name	Repl'd	Enrollment (students)	Have Guards	Need Guards	Guard Type	Expenditure Plan Reference
1	Bolin-Stinson Union	Bolin Campus (3-8)						
2		Stinson Beach Campus (K-2)						
3	Dixie	Dixie (K-5)						
4		Don Timoteo (Leased)						
5		Lucas Valley (Leased)						
6		Mary E. Silveria (K-5)	•	370	No	No	n/a	
7		Miller Creek Middle (6-8)	•	660	No	Yes	n/a	
8		Nova Albion (DO & Leased)						
9		Santa Margarita (Leased)						
10		Vallecito (K-5)						Nova Albion Way
11	Kentfield	Anthony G. Bacich (K-4)	•	470	Yes	No	P/V	Sir Francis Drake Blvd
12		Kent Middle (6-8)	•	520	No	Yes	n/a	Sir Francis Drake Blvd
13	Laguna Joint	Laguna Joint (K-6)						
14	Lagunitas	Lagunitas (K-8)	•	208	Yes	No	P	
15		San Geronimo Valley (K-6)	•	108	Yes	No	P	
16	Larkspur	Hall Middle (6-8)	•	330	Yes	No	P	
17		Larkspur-Corte Madera (Leased)						
18		Neil Cummins (K-5)	•	407	Yes	No	P	
19		San Clemente (Leased)						
20		Redwood High School						
21	Lincoln	Lincoln (K-6)						
22	Mill Valley	Edna Maguire (K-5)						Camino Alto
23		Homestead (Leased)						
24		Mill Valley Middle (6-8)						Camino Alto
25		Old Mill (K-5)	•	310	Yes	No	P	
26		Park (K-5)						E Blithedale
27		Strawberry Point (K-5)						Tiburon Blvd
28		Tamalpais Valley (K-5)						
29		Tamalpais High School						Miller Ave
30	Nicasio	Nicasio (K-8)	•	68	No	No	n/a	
31	Novato Unified	Hamilton (K-5)	•	364	No	Yes	C	
32		Loma Verde (K-5)	•	341	No	Yes	C	Ignacio Blvd
33		Lu Sutton (K-5)	•	421	Yes	No	C	Center Rd
34		Lynwood	•	399	Yes	No	C	
35		Olive (K-5)	•	375	Yes	No	C	
36		Pleasant Valley	•	371	Yes	No	C	
37		Hill (6-8)	•	601	No	Yes	C	Diablo Ave
38		San Jose (6-8)	•	509	No	Yes	C	Ignacio Blvd
39		Sinaloa (6-8)	•	620	No	Yes	C	Vineyard Rd
40		Novato (9-12)						
41		San Marin (9-12)						
42		Novator Charter (K-8)						
43		San Marin (9-12)						
44		NOVA/Indep., Adult Ed						
45		Marin Oaks (10-12)						
46		Rancho Esentialist	•	484	Yes	No	C	
47		San Ramon	•	472	Yes	Yes	C	
48	Reed Union	Bel Aire (3-5)	•	370	Yes	No	P	
49		Del Mar (6-8)	•	350	Yes	No	P	Tiburon Blvd
50		Granada (Leased)						
51		Reed (K-2)	•	350	Yes	Yes	P	Tiburon Blvd

Key:

V - Volunteer
P - Paid Employee
C - Contracted

**Summary Data
Crossing Guard Survey**

No.	School District	School Name	Repl'd	Enrollment (students)	Have Guards	Need Guards	Guard Type	EP Priority
52	Ross	Ross (K-8)	•		Yes	Yes	P	Sir Francis Drake Blvd
53	Ross Valley	Brookside - Lower Campus (K-2)	•	282	Yes	No	P	Butterfield Rd
54		Brookside - Upper Campus (3-5)	•	287	Yes	No	P	Butterfield Rd
55		Deer Park (Leased)						
56		Manor (K-5)						Sir Francis Drake Blvd
57		Red Hill (Leased)						
58		Wade Thomas (K-5)	•	290	Yes	Yes	V	
59		White Hill (6-8)	•	604	No	No	n/a	Sir Francis Drake Blvd
60		Sir Francis Drake High School						Sir Francis Drake Blvd
61	San Rafael Elem.	Bahia Vista (K-5)						Bahia Way & Canal St
62		Coleman (K-5)						
63		Davidson Middle (6-8)						
64		Gallinas (K-8)	•	585	Yes	No	P	
65		Glenwood (K-5)	•	362	Yes	Yes	V	
66		Laurel Dell (K-5)	•	142	No	Yes	-	
67		San Pedro (K-5)						
68		Sun Valley (K-5)	•	407	Yes	Yes	P	
69	San Rafael High	San Rafael High (9-12)						
70		Terra Linda High (9-12)						
71		Madrone High - Continuation (9-12)						
72	Sausalito Marin City	Bayside School (K-6)	•	125	No	No	n/a	
73		M. Luther King Jr. Academy (7-8)						
74		Old Manzanita (Leased)						
75	Shoreline Unified	Bodega Bay Elementary (K-5)						
76		Tomales Elementary (K-8)						
77		Tomales High (9-12)						
78		West Marin Elementary (K-8)						
79		Inverness (K-1)						
80	Union Joint	Union Joint (K-6)						
81	Private	Marin Horizon (K-8)	•	250	Yes	No	P	Marinda Dr Tiburon Blvd
82		Saint Rita's Prochial School						
83		Saint Hilary	•	240	No	No	n/a	
84		Phoenix Academy	•	120	No	Yes	n/a	
85		Marin Montessori School	•	200	No	No	n/a	

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